May 2, 2016

Tinka Hyde, Director **Water Division** U.S. EPA Region 5 77 W Jackson Boulevard Chicago, IL 60604-3590

Re:

MPCA's Legal Authority to Implement its Authorized NPDES Program While Working Under Laws

of Minnesota 2015, 1st Spec. Sess. Chapter 4, Article 4, Section 136

Dear Ms. Hyde:

I have reviewed your letter dated April 5, 2016, requesting a statement certifying that Minnesota continues to have adequate authority to implement all of its federally approved water quality standards consistent with the Clean Water Act.

After conversation with the office of the Minnesota Attorney General, I request that you extend the deadline for a response to July 1. An extension is necessary to ensure a complete and accurate analysis of the legislation in question and the state's authorities.

If you need additional information or have questions, please contact me at 651-757-2022 or rebecca.flood@state.mn.us.

Sincerely,

Rebecca J. Flood

Assistant Commissioner

Jeff Stollenwerk, MPCA – Duluth cc:

Ann Foss, MPCA – St. Paul

Zehma J. Flore